REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12 through 18 and 20 through 27 are pending in the case.

Claims 21 through 27 are new.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 19 have been canceled.

Claims 1, 7 and 17 have been amended.

Original claims 1 through 20 have been rejected.

Rejection of the Claims

Examiner has rejected claims 1, 6, 7 12 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by USPN 6,259,712 (DeCain).

Examiner has rejected claims 2 through 5, 8 through 11, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over DeCain in view of USPN 6,885,462 (Lee).

Examiner has rejected claims 13, 14 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over DeCain in view of USPN 6,714,309 (May).

Examiner has rejected claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over DeCain in view of May and further in view of Lee.

Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the rejection. Specifically, each of the independent claims 1, 17 and 17 sets out subject matter not disclosed or suggested by the cited art. Likewise, each of the new added independent claims 21 and 23 sets out subject matter not disclosed or suggested by the cited art.

Below, Applicant sets out subject matter in each independent claim not disclose or suggested by the prior art. On the basis of this Applicant believes all the claims are allowable.

Applicant has not herein addressed the statements based on the "personal knowledge" of Examiner about which the Examiner took official notice, as Applicant believes these statements are moot based on the amendments made to the claims.

Discussion of Independent Claim 1

Claim 1 sets out a method for monitoring a laser signal. Light transmitted through an etalon is detected to produce a transmitted signal. Light reflected from the etalon is detected to produce a reflected signal. Peaks of the transmitted signal are sharpened by dividing the transmitted signal by the reflected signal. None of the cited art discloses or suggests the sharpening of peaks of the transmitted signal by dividing a transmitted signal by a reflected signal.

For example, Lee discloses detecting wavelength drift by dividing the transmitted beam 55 by the reflected beam 56 to obtain a ratio which is in turn used to correspond an actual wavelength drift of channel (step S41). See column 3, lines 42 through 45 and Figure 4. Lee does not disclose or suggest the sharpening of peaks of the transmitted signal by dividing a transmitted signal by a reflected signal.

Discussion of Independent Claim 7

Claim 7 sets out a system that monitors a laser signal. A first detector detects light transmitted through the etalon to produce a transmitted signal. A second detector detects light reflected from the etalon to produce a reflected signal. A monitor sharpens peaks of the transmitted signal by dividing the transmitted signal by the reflected signal. None of the cited art discloses or suggests the sharpening of peaks of the transmitted signal by dividing a transmitted signal by a reflected signal.

For example, Lee discloses detecting wavelength drift by dividing the transmitted beam 55 by the reflected beam 56 to obtain a ratio which is in turn used to correspond an actual wavelength drift of channel (step S41). See column 3, lines 42 through 45 and Figure 4. Lee does not disclose or suggest the sharpening of peaks of the transmitted signal by dividing a transmitted signal by a reflected signal.

Discussion of Independent Claim 17

Claim 17 sets out a system that monitors a laser signal. A first detection means detects light transmitted through the measurement means to produce a transmitted signal. A second detector means detects light reflected from the measurement means to produce a reflected signal. A device means sharpens peaks of the transmitted signal by dividing the transmitted signal by the reflected signal. None of the cited art discloses or suggests the sharpening of

peaks of the transmitted signal by dividing a transmitted signal by a reflected signal.

For example, Lee discloses detecting wavelength drift by dividing the transmitted beam 55 by the reflected beam 56 to obtain a ratio which is in turn used to correspond an actual wavelength drift of channel (step S41). See column 3, lines 42 through 45 and Figure 4. Lee does not disclose or suggest the sharpening of peaks of the transmitted signal by dividing a transmitted signal by a reflected signal.

Discussion of Independent Claim 21

Claim 21 sets out a method for monitoring. Light transmitted through an etalon is detected to produce a transmitted signal. Light reflected from the etalon is detected to produce a reflected signal. A sinusoidal signal for use in interpolation is generated. The sinusoidal signal is generated by dividing the reflected signal by the transmitted signal. None of the cited art discloses or suggests generating a sinusoidal signal for use in interpolation where the sinusoidal signal is generated by dividing the reflected signal by the transmitted signal.

For example, Lee discloses detecting wavelength drift by dividing the transmitted beam 55 by the reflected beam 56 to obtain a ratio which is in turn used to correspond an actual wavelength drift of channel (step S41). See column 3, lines 42 through 45 and Figure 4. Lee does not disclose or suggest generating

a sinusoidal signal for use in interpolation where the sinusoidal signal is generated by dividing the reflected signal by the transmitted signal.

Discussion of Independent Claim 23

Claim 23 sets out a system that monitors a laser signal. A first detector detects light transmitted through the etalon to produce a transmitted signal. A second detector detects light reflected from the etalon to produce a reflected signal. A monitor generates a sinusoidal signal for use in interpolation. The sinusoidal signal is generated by dividing the reflected signal by the transmitted signal. None of the cited art discloses or suggests generating a sinusoidal signal for use in interpolation where the sinusoidal signal is generated by dividing the reflected signal by the transmitted signal.

For example, Lee discloses detecting wavelength drift by dividing the transmitted beam 55 by the reflected beam 56 to obtain a ratio which is in turn used to correspond an actual wavelength drift of channel (step S41). See column 3, lines 42 through 45 and Figure 4. Lee does not disclose or suggest generating a sinusoidal signal for use in interpolation where the sinusoidal signal is generated by dividing the reflected signal by the transmitted signal.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this Amendment has placed the present application in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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